

Blue Ridge Environmental Defense League

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October 10, 2012

Dr. Steven Chu
Secretary of Energy
U.S. Department of Energy
1000 Independence Ave., SW
Washington, DC 20585
The.Secretary@hq.doe.gov

Dear Dr. Chu:

On behalf of the Blue Ridge Environmental Defense League and its chapters, I write to request an investigation into the actions of Areva, the French government conglomerate which is part of Shaw Areva Mox Services. We believe that Areva represents a threat to public health in the Central Savannah River Area and that their dispute with the Tennessee Valley Authority indicates financial risks for people in the Tennessee Valley who depend on it for electric power.

Claim Involving Areva Fuel Fabrication and Tennessee Valley Authority

On November 9, 2005, TVA received two invoices totaling \$76 million from Areva (öArevaö) and an affiliated company, the successor of Babcock and Wilcox Company (öB&Wö). In 1970, TVA and B&W entered into a contract for fuel fabrication services for its Bellefonte Nuclear Plant. Areva's invoices are based upon its belief that the 1970 contract required TVA to buy more fuel fabrication services from B&W than TVA actually purchased. A meeting was held between TVA and Areva on May 31, 2006, to discuss the issue. TVA subsequently received a letter from Areva which reasserted its claim, but reduced the value of the claim to \$26 million. Areva has not provided any further information concerning the claim nor has it explained the reason for the reduction in the claim amount.

See TVA Form 10-K 2006 at <http://www.secinfo.com/dsVsf.vB99.htm#77is>

Please find attached my comments sent to the US Department of Energy in the matter of the Supplemental Plutonium Disposition Supplemental EIS, DOE/EISö0283ö S2, which details the risks to public health and national security posed by the plutonium fuel program and the actions of Areva.

Thank you in advance for your attention to this request.

Respectfully,



Louis Zeller, Executive Director
Blue Ridge Environmental Defense League